

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119121
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 119121

FOR O'DONNELL SUGAR CONFERENCE DELEGATION

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAO PAULO 2385 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BRASILIA RIO DE JANEIRO DTD 20 MAY

QTE

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 1285

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BR

SUBJECT: CONFLICTING CLAIMS ON DEGREE OF DAMAGE SUFFERED BY
COFFEE TREES IN PARANA

1. ACCORDING TO A REPORT CARRIED IN THE 19 MAY EDITIONS OF THE
"GAZETA MERCANTIL" CAMILO CALAZANS, PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN
COFFEE INSTITUTE (IBC) STATED ON 18 MAY THAT THE 1976/1977
COFFEE CROP IN PARANA WOULD BE AFFECTED ONLY SLIGHTLY BY THE
COLD, VIOLENT WINDS WHICH STRUCK THE REGION ON 17 MAY. IBC AGRO-
NOMISTS, IN PARANA TO ASSESS THE DAMAGE, REPORTED TO CALAZANS
THAT THE LEAVES OF MANY YOUNG COFFEE TREES IN THE REGION SHOW
SIGN OF DAMAGE, INDICATING THAT RECOVERY FROM THE JULY 1975 FROST
WOULD BE DELAYED BY ANOTHER YEAR.

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PAGE 02 STATE 119121

2. IN A RELATED ARTICLE CARRIED IN ITS 19 MAY EDITION, THE "O
ESTADO DE SAO PAULO" REPORTS THAT MANY COFFEE GROWERS IN THE AFF-
ECTED REGION AS WELL AS SOME IBC EXPERTS CLAIM THAT THERE WAS
"CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE" SUFFERED BY THE COFFEE CROP.

3. THE ARTICLE IN "O ESTADO" GOES ON TO STATE, HOWEVER, THAT THESE

SAME COFFEE FARMERS AND IBC EXPERTS ALSO ADMIT THAT THERE IS A "GAME" OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS OVER INFORMATION ON THE EXTENT AND DEGREE OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE COLD WINDS. ON ONE SIDE THERE ARE THE COFFEE GROWERS WHO HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN REPORTS OF SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE CROP IN ORDER TO FORCE PRICES STILL HIGHER ON THE WORLD MARKET. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE STATE OF PARANA WOULD PREFER TO MINIMIZE THE EXTENT OF DAMAGE SUFFERED IN ORDER TO KEEP PARANA FROM BEING LEFT OUT OF ANY NEW GOVERNMENT COFFEE PLANTING SCHEME.

4. THE TRUE SITUATION IS STILL UNCLEAR; THE IBC ADMITS THAT ITS AGRONOMISTS HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED THEIR SURVEY. THE CONGEN WILL CONTINUE TO REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

5. EMBASSY CONCURS.
CHAPIN UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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